

Rector's Column

"Blessed be the God of our Savior Jesus Christ, the God of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God."

2Cor 1:3-4

Dear Friends,

The Mary Chapel is nearing completion and preparations are underway for Archbishop Melissa Skelton to visit Trinity in order to dedicate the chapel and bless the items within it. I am deeply grateful for the generous donations of those who made possible the purchase and installation of the antique "monk's bench" with its beautiful harvest-themed carving. My deep thanks to the following donors towards the bench: Linda Dixon, Don Olin, Linda Gabourel, and Michael Heiner. With your donations, we achieved the needed goal of raising \$1,500 for the cost of the monk's bench. Additionally, I want to extend special thanks to Lawrence Sylvester for the use of his truck, hitching up a U-Haul trailer, and driving with me to/from Kennewick in order to pick up the bench. Lawrence lifts weights and pretty much singlehandedly picked up the bench with one hand, braced it on his shoulder, and set it down in the chapel like an ecclesial version of Paul Bunyan!



A special altar has been designed specifically for the Mary Chapel made of woods native to the Pacific Northwest (redwood and coastal maple). The design of the altar is intended to highlight the God-given beauty of our natural world and celebrate the sacred connection that God invites human beings into with and through Creation. The top and base of the altar are redwood featuring live edges and natural cross sections of old growth. The supports will be of dark maple, also with live edges beautiful spalting in the grain. The lifecycle of the forest – life, death, and rebirth – will be captured and symbolized in a small wood sculpture of a local species of delicate mushrooms that installed on the altar base.

Those who have made donations to the Mary Chapel altar project so far include: Ron and Linda Schumacher, Kara and Jim Pankiewicz, Brian and Michelle Wheeler, and Michael and Kim Hensley. I am very grateful for their generosity and support of the chapel. Havey Windle, the owner of Forest Gems in Port Townsend, is creating the altar, which should be ready over the first weekend of May. Of the \$3,305 total in costs for the altar, our current donors have generously contributed \$2,250. So, there is still an opportunity to contribute to the Mary Chapel, and If you are able to make a donation of any size, I'm hoping to gather the remaining \$1,055 needed as soon as we can so that we can install the altar in the beginning of May. Please let me know if you'd like to make a donation to the chapel.

Trinity's Mary Chapel is intended to be place for rest and reflective prayer, offering a setting in which we recognize that we are a part of Creation and called into caring relationship with nature in emulation of the power of resurrection in which we are called to partner with Christ. Jesus was born of his mother Mary. As Jesus his followers, "Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." The wall painting based on Fra Angelico's fresco of Christ's resurrection Magdalene draws us into the holy work of renewal of ourselves and the world around us throughout our lives as those who are participants in Christ's resurrection through our baptism. The date for the chapel dedication will be announced soon!

In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Rachel+